

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Replace the original drawing with the accompanying new drawing.

REMARKS

The specificaion has been amended as needed.

A new drawing replaces the original drawing. On the new drawing, Figure 3 is bracketed.

However, no change is seen to be needed as to the radial ridges 32, which are clearly shown in Figure 4 of the drawing.

The claims previously in the case have been replaced by a set of new claims which are believed to be proper as to form and clearly patentable over the cited references.

Reconsideration is accordingly respectfully requested, for the rejection of the claims as anticipated by KIMBALL 920,481.

The present invention relates to a rotor 10 for a centrifuge (centrifugal separator) configured for cleaning or purifying a gas medium in a stationary housing, wherein the rotor comprises a great number (up to hundreds) of conical separation discs 22 concentrically stacked upon one another and compressed by the end plates 14, 36 and at least three circumferentially distributed tensile rods 24 fitted into radial notches 26 extending from a central gas inlet hole 30.

In sharp contrast therewith, KIMBALL discloses a centrifugal separator for separating liquids (milk), comprising a rotor which is integrated with a surrounding housing (bowl) rotating together with the rotor, which is not suitable for

separating particles from a gas medium. The centrifuge comprises six flat, perforated discs  $k$  separated axially elongate subdividers  $S$  and guided circumferentially by two or more rods  $R$  of different cross-section for adjusting and retaining the subdividers (page 2, lines 22-23). Two end plates  $s^1$  and  $s^2$  hold the plates and the subdividers together by means of the rods  $R$  and nuts  $N$ , which does not require any great tensile force. The rods  $R$ , nuts  $N$  and the end plates  $s^1$  and  $s^2$  are not suited for stacking and compressing a great number of adjacent conical separation discs so as to hold these tightly, as is the case with the rotor of the present invention. Furthermore, the central holes of the flat discs  $k$  define a space for a central drive shaft and an outlet for separated cream, whereas the central hole 30 of the conical discs of the inventive rotor define a free, unblocked inlet for a gas to be purified (see Figure 1).

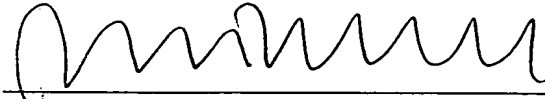
As the new claims bring out these distinctions with ample particularity, it is believed that they are both patentable, and reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional  
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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RJP/lk

**APPENDIX:**

The Appendix includes the following item:

- replacement sheet